autonomous bodies, restructuring of courses is within the competence of the appropriate bodies of each University.

Workers university in the country

798. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to establish an exclusive workers university in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Ministry of Labour and Central Trade Unions are being consulted for this purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. G. Sanjeeva Reddy has been constituted to study the prospects of establishing a Workers' Technical University which could help address the gap between demand and supply of technically qualified personnel.

National Science and Research Foundation

799. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to set up world-class national science and research foundation in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating cities in which these foundations are being set up and the total cost of setting up these foundations;

(c) whether the State Governments have offered land and other necessary facilities for setting up these foundations if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether these institutes would start functioning from the academic year 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) As informed by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) a proposal has been made by the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM) for setting up an autonomous "National Science and Engineering Research Foundation (NSERF)". The proposal is under consideration of DST.

Corruption in educational institutes

800. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent raid by income tax department in various educational institutes particularly in Maharashtra in which they found large number of unaccounted fixed deposit receipts, cash deposits and other incriminating documents after mounting complaints by people about blatant corruption during the admission process;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken against erring educational institutes;

(c) whether Government are bringing any stringent laws for free and fair admission in the engineering and technical institutes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when, it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the office or Director General of Income Tax (Investigation), Pune, surveys were conducted on certain educational institutions at Pune, Kolhapur, Thane, Mumbai, Nagpur, Latur, Jaisinghpur and Nepani including search actions on officers and some trustees of the institutions. According to the said office, cash seizure of about Rs. 6.00 crores was effected and certain documents showing receipts of donations/capitation fee were found and the assessment proceedings are underway. Details of institutions proceeded against are awaited from the Income Tax authorities.

In order to ensure free and fair admissions in Engineering and Technical Institutes, States are empowered to make appropriate laws under the provisions of Article 15 (5) of the Constitution.